

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

**HB 2070 - SB 2056**

April 6, 2022

**SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (001015):** Adds conviction for certain offenses to the definition of "severe child abuse" by a parent. Makes various changes regarding the termination of parental or guardianship rights and a parent's standing to make claims regarding such termination of rights. Establishes that all confidential adoption records become a public record and open to inspection when 100 years have elapsed since the adoption was finalized or since the creation of the oldest dated item in the adoption record.

Expands the definition of "abandonment" as it relates to the termination of parental or guardian rights of certain persons who are, or have been, incarcerated.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Any changes relating to the opening of confidential adoption records after 100 years are expected to be absorbed within existing resources and will not have a significant effect on the operations of the Department of Children's Services (DCS).
- Expanding the definition of abandonment will not have a meaningful impact on the operations of DCS.
- According to information provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts, the proposed legislation will not result in a significant increase in caseloads for the state and local courts.
- Any fiscal impact to state or local government is estimated to be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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